

Sandlin	Stark	Velazquez
Sawyer	Stenholm	Vento
Schakowsky	Strickland	Visclosky
Scott	Stupak	Waters
Serrano	Tanner	Watt (NC)
Sherman	Tauscher	Waxman
Shows	Thompson (CA)	Weiner
Sisisky	Thompson (MS)	Wexler
Skelton	Thurman	Weygand
Slaughter	Tierney	Wise
Smith (WA)	Towns	Woolsey
Snyder	Turner	Wu
Spratt	Udall (CO)	Wynn
Stabenow	Udall (NM)	

NOT VOTING—5

Chenoweth	McDermott	Peterson (PA)
Cummings	Oberstar	

□ 1640

Mr. CRAMER changed his vote from "yea" to "nay."

Mr. GOODLATTE changed his vote from "nay" to "yea."

So the resolution was agreed to.

The result of the vote was announced as above recorded.

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

GENERAL LEAVE

Mr. PACKARD. Madam Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members may have 5 legislative days within which to revise and extend their remarks on the bill (H.R. 2605) making appropriations for energy and water development for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2000, and for other purposes, and that I may include tabular and extraneous material.

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mrs. EMERSON). Is there objection to the request of the gentleman from California?

There was no objection.

ENERGY AND WATER DEVELOPMENT APPROPRIATIONS ACT, 2000

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mrs. EMERSON). Pursuant to House Resolution 261 and rule XVIII, the Chair declares the House in the Committee of the Whole House on the State of the Union for the consideration of the bill, H.R. 2605.

□ 1642

IN THE COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE

Accordingly, the House resolved itself into the Committee of the Whole House on the State of the Union for the consideration of the bill (H.R. 2605) making appropriations for energy and water development for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2000, and for other purposes, with Mr. Hansen in the chair.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The CHAIRMAN. Pursuant to the rule, the bill is considered as having been read the first time.

Under the rule, the gentleman from California (Mr. PACKARD) and the gentleman from Indiana (Mr. VISCLOSKEY) each will control 30 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from California (Mr. PACKARD).

Mr. PACKARD. Mr. Chairman, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

(Mr. PACKARD asked and was given permission to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. PACKARD. Mr. Chairman, it is my privilege to present to the Committee of the Whole for its consideration the bill H.R. 2605, making appropriations for energy and water development for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2000.

Mr. Chairman, this bill provides annual funding for a wide array of Federal Government programs involving such diverse matters as national security, environmental cleanup, flood control, advanced scientific research, navigation, alternative energy sources, and the nuclear power regulation.

□ 1645

Programs funded by this bill affect multiple aspects of American life, having significant implications for domestic security, commercial competitiveness, and the advance of science.

I am proud of the bill reported by the Committee on Appropriations without amendment, and I believe it merits the support of the entire membership of this body.

Perhaps the most remarkable aspect of this bill is its constrained size. The measure represents an unqualified victory for fiscal austerity, conservatism, and responsibility.

Total funding for the energy and water bill in H.R. 2605 is \$20.19 billion. This is more than \$900 million below the fiscal year 1999 baseline for energy and water development programs. Further, it is \$1.4 billion below the budget request and more than \$1 billion less than the energy and water bill passed by the Senate earlier this year.

Mr. Chairman, the substantial cuts contained in H.R. 2605 are real. They are not produced by smoke and mirrors gimmicks or creative accounting. They, rather, are the result of a fiscal discipline demanding reduction in the size, scope, and cost of the Federal Government.

Despite the bill's deep programmatic reductions, it provides adequate funding for the continuation of high priority programs, promising the greatest return on the investment of taxpayer dollars.

The cost-effective civil works program of the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, for example, is funded at a level significantly higher than the budget request and slightly higher than the fiscal year 1999 level. This funding is more than offset by considerable reductions in the Department of Energy.

The bill requires, for example, a reduction of \$125 million in DOE contractor travel expenses. This is one-half the level of this current year. And, as my colleagues all know, we have received documented evidence of abusive travel in that Department.

Mr. Chairman, I owe a great debt of gratitude to the hard-working members of the Subcommittee on Energy and Water Development. They have labored hard under difficult fiscal con-

straints to provide a bill that is balanced and fair.

I especially want to express my gratitude to the ranking minority member, the honorable gentleman from Indiana (Mr. VISCLOSKEY). He has been extremely helpful. Together we have developed a good bill. I know there are one or two items of disagreement, but overall I think both of us support a very good bill.

I am very proud of his efforts and pleased that we have worked as well as we have together. It is in large part due to his effort that we present this bill that merits the support of all the Members on final passage.

Mr. Chairman, I urge all Members to support H.R. 2605 as reported by the Committee on Appropriations.

Mr. Chairman, it is my privilege to present to the Committee of the Whole for its consideration H.R. 2605, making appropriations for energy and water development for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2000. Mr. Chairman, this bill provides annual funding for a wide array of Federal government programs, comprehending such diverse matters as national security, environmental cleanup, flood control, advanced scientific research, navigation, alternative energy sources, and nuclear power regulation. Programs funded by this bill affect multiple aspects of American life, having significant implications for domestic security, commercial competitiveness, and the advance of science. I am proud of the bill reported by the Committee on Appropriations without amendment, and I believe it merits the support of the entire membership of this body.

Perhaps the most remarkable aspect of this bill is its constrained size. The measure represents an unqualified victory for fiscal austerity, conservatism and responsibility. Total funding for energy and water programs in H.R. 2605 is \$20.19 billion. This is more than \$900 million below the fiscal year 1999 baseline for energy and water development programs. Furthermore, it is \$1.4 billion below the budget request and more than \$1 billion less than the Energy and Water Bill passed by the Senate earlier this summer.

Mr. Chairman, the substantial cuts contained in H.R. 2605 are real. They are not produced by smoke and mirrors, gimmicks, or creative accounting. Rather, they are the result of a fiscal discipline demanding reduction in the size, scope and cost of the Federal government.

Despite the bill's deep programmatic reductions, it provides adequate funding for the continuation of high-priority programs promising the greatest return on the investment of taxpayers dollars. The cost-effective civil works program of the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, for example, is funded at a level significantly higher than the budget request and slightly higher than fiscal year 1999. This funding is more than offset by considerable reductions in the Department of Energy. The bill requires, for example, a reduction of \$125 million in DOE contractor travel expenses, an area of documented abuse.

Title I of the bill provides funding for the civil works program of the Corps of Engineers. The Subcommittee on Energy and Water Development is unanimous in its belief that this program is among the most valuable within the Subcommittee's jurisdiction. The national benefits of projects for flood control, navigation